

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of all rejections of the application and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested, especially in view of the amendments and remarks submitted herein.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-10 were previously pending. By this paper, claims 2, 7, 9, and 10 are canceled and claims 1 and 6 are amended, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents. No new matter is added. It is respectfully submitted that the claims herewith and the claims as originally presented are and were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §§101, 102, 103 and 112. Support for the amended claims is found throughout the specification and in the originally filed claims.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, FIRST PARAGRAPH

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for allegedly failing to comply with the enablement requirement. By this paper claim 10 is canceled. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, are respectfully requested.

III. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

Claims 2, 7, 9, and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, for allegedly failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention. By this paper claims 2, 7, 9, and 10 have been canceled, thereby overcoming this rejection. The Office Action also rejected claims 1 and 6, asserting that the use of parenthetical phrases rendered the claims indefinite. By this paper claims 1 and 6 have been amended to remove the parentheses, thereby overcoming this rejection. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, are respectfully requested.



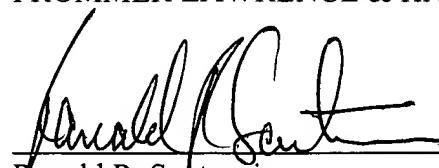
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CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application, and prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance, are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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